Matcha Scans

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Tabasa Ozori

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In the manga the bond between general and strategist is called 刎頸の友 ("funkei no tomo"), which means very close friendship and can be roughly translated as "a friend to cut his head off". It means friends so loyal that they are ready to be decapitated for the sake of one another. Here I translate it as "eternal friendship".

Elai (口来) was a bodyguard for King Zhou during the Shang Dynasty of ancient China. He was known for his immense physical strength. In ***Romance of the Three Kingdoms***, Cao Cao, impressed with Dian Wei's strength, states "This is Elai of old again!" Thus this fictional nickname of Dian Wei stuck with him, and he was henceforth known as "Elai" Dian Wei.

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第17話 Why do strategists seek the bond of eternal friendship?

...
LORD DIAN WEI!
WE ARE COMING!

AAA!
DON'T INTERFERE.
KEEP CALM!
IT MOVES, BUT IT'S STILL JUST A GRASS!
IT CAN'T...

EVERYONE!
CUT IT!
CUT IT!
INDEED, THE GRASS ALONE IS WEAK...
...BUT, TOGETHER WITH THE WIND...

LORD STRATEGIST! IT'S NOT THE TIME TO ADMIRE THE ENEMY!
HUH?
WOW!
YOU ARE SO EASILY COMBINING
SEVERAL ARTS, FENGXIAO!
YOUR COMPANION WILL BE DONE FOR!
AT THIS RATE, LORD DIAN WEI...!
FIRST: YOU... NO, EVERYONE IN THE CAO ARMY ARE MISUNDER-STANDING'...
...I'M NOT A STRA-TEGIST.
PLEASE DO SOME-THING!

AT LEAST,
NOT ANYMORE.
I QUIT THIS BUSINESS.
...MY EXISTENCE STARTED TO CEASE...
THAT'S WHY I TRIED TO RETIRE. I WANTED TO GO TO SHU OR SOMEWHERE TO LIVE A CAREFREE LIFE AT MY LEISURE, BUT...
WHA...
WILL YOU JUST LOOK HOW OUR TROOPS ARE BEING ANNIHILATED, AND DO NOTHING?!
BUT OUR LORD TREATED YOU SO KINDLY!

Shu - ancient name of Sichuan province

IS YOUR OBJECTIVE TO TAKE THIS CAMP?
ANNIHILATED? IT DOESN'T MATTER, ACTUALLY.
...!
NOT AT ALL.
YOUR OBJECTIVE IS TO CAPTURE THE EMPEROR.
ADVISER ...
I THINK, NOW WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO RELY ON HIS PERSISTENCE.
TO ACHIEVE THIS, LISTEN TO MY ADVICE: JUST LEAVE EVERYTHING TO MASTER DIAN WEI.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND, FENGXIAO?
I CAN'T TELL MY MASTER THAT I FAILED LIKE THIS...
THE VERY MAN, WHOM CAO CAO NICKNAMED AS THE HERO OF ANCIENT TIMES.
THE ONE BEFORE YOU IS DIAN WEI.

Dai
Dian Wei

NOT BAD MASTER STRATEGIST!
...
BUT WHATEVER ART YOU MAY USE,...
IN THE END I WILL PREVAIL AND FULFILL MY MASTER'S ORDER!
HIS MARTIAL ART IS ENOUGH TO OVERCOME MAGIC?
HOW CAN THIS COMMANDER BE SO STRONG?
BUT STILL, WHY IS CAO CAO ATTACKING OUR CAMP...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND... I DON'T KNOW, WHAT SHOULD BE DONE NEXT...
GUO JIA!

LAN!
IT'S ALRIGHT! LEAVE THIS MAN TO ME!
A WARRIOR, WHO DESTROYS MAGIC,....
...CAN ONLY BE DEFEATED...
...BY ANOTHER WARRIOR!

HA! IS THERE SOMEONE CAPABLE IN THE YUAN ARMY?
ENOUGH TALK.
I'VE GOT IT, LAN!
I'M LEAVING EVERYTHING TO YOU!

HEY, YOU!
WHY DO YOU THINK BOTH GENERALS AND STRATEGISTS NEED TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT OF ETERNAL FRIENDSHIP?
AS FOR GENERALS, THEY REQUIRE STRATEGISTS' PLANS. AND STRATEGISTS...
SO, WHAT ABOUT STRATEGISTS?
ERM...
?!
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF STRATEGISTS' BODIES...
TIME HAS STOPPED FOR THEM,...

THAT'S WHY WE CAN WIELD MAGIC. BUT IF OUR BODY AND SPIRIT BECOME UNSTABLE,
THE FRAGILE BALANCE IS LOST, AND WE MAY GET DRAGGED INTO THE OTHERWORLD.
...LIKE A A THIN THREAD.
...SO THEY ARE STRETCHED BETWEEN
THE HUMAN WORLD AND THE HEAVENS, ...
WEN CHOU!... QUICKLY, STOP HIM!...
SHOU!
MASTER JU SHOU!
PLEASE WORRY NOT.

I'M YOURS TO COMMAND. PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR ORDERS.
THAT'S WHY YOU ARE UPSET.
THIS IS A MOCKERY.
HMM...
WHO CAN WIELD THIS ART?
AFTER ALL, YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE, MASTER JUYSHOU.
THIS IS OBVIOUS!

YOU ARE TALKING TOO MUCH, ZHANG HE.
THAT'S WHY A STRATEGIST NEEDS A GENERAL.
THE EXISTENCE OF GENERAL IS THE NECESSARY LINK, THAT CONNECTS STRATEGIST TO THIS WORLD AND ALLOWS HIM TO CONTUNUE LIVING AS A HUMAN.

SO, HAVE YOU FOUND FENGXIAO,
WHAT I COULDN'T FIND: ...
...A PARTNER WITH WHOM YOU ARE BOTH READY TO GIVE LIVES FOR EACH OTHER?
IT'S QUITE HEAVY...
HIS HALLBERD...
HIS HALLBERD...
IF I GET DISTRACTED, HE'LL CRUSH ME AT ONCE!

...BUT HE EVADES EVERY TIME!
I KEEP TRYING TO TO HIT HIM...
I KEEP TRYING TO TO HIT HIM...
I'M REALLY ENJOYING ...
...THIS FIGHT!

YO, BUDDY!
YOU ARE NOT BAD!
YOU ALSO!
I'D REALLY LOVE TO CONTINUE PLAYING THIS DEADLY GAME WITH YOU TILL THE END!
BUT... I HAVE A TASK TO FULFILL

...THE EMPEROR!
NO WAY... HE IS REALLY...
NO!!
GUO JIA!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

LAN!
IT'S DANGEROUS HERE! STAY CLOSE TO GUO JIA!
I UNDE...

LAN?!

SHOULDN'T HAVE TURNED YOUR BACK...
THEN... PLEASE...
I... AT THIS RATE, I...
!!
...PLEASE RUN,...
...YOUR MAJE-STY!

TAKE CARE OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY,...
...GUO JIA...
Lan
Lan
SO, THIS CHILD...
...IS THE EMPEROR?!

THIS BOY... THE EMPEROR...
WHAT IS GOING ON...
WHAT...

LAN...
LAN!
DON'T...

SO, ARE YOU REPEATING THAT MISTAKE AGAIN, GUO JIA?

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